

REMARKS

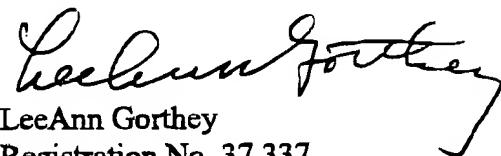
The present amendments were suggested by the Examiner in a telephone conference on January 2, 2002. In a telephone conference on January 11, 2001, the Examiner indicated that the amendments would place the claims in condition for allowance.

The amendments are submitted to expedite allowance. The applicants reserve the right to pursue the scope of previous claim 24 in continuing applications.

In view of the foregoing, the applicant submits that the claims now pending are now in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is, therefore, respectfully requested.

No fees are believed necessary with this communication. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized and requested to charge any deficiency in fees herein to Deposit Account No. 50-0665.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: 1-16-02

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